

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
- EXPEDITED PROCEDURE -
EXAMINING GROUP ART UNIT 3773
Atty. Docket No: 2850 (203-3277)**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Cunningham et al. EXAMINER: Melissa K. Ryckman
SERIAL NO.: 10/618,990 GROUP: Art Unit 3773
FILED: July 14, 2003 DATED: September 21, 2010
FOR: **SURGICAL COBRA HEAD SUTURE NEEDLE**

Confirmation No.: 5967
Mail Stop: AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on July 21, 2010, Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be considered as follows:

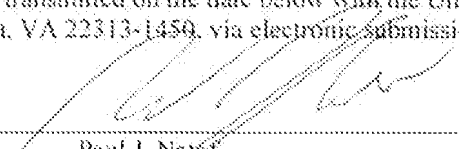
The **Listing of Claims** begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted on the date below with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, via electronic submission.

Dated: September 21, 2010



Paul J. Nar6f